

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

September 30, 2004

Do not Write Intolerance and Discrimination into our Constitution!
Oppose H.J. Res. 106, the Marriage Protection Amendment!

Dear Colleague:

Today, the House will vote on H.J. Res. 106, the so-called "Marriage Protection Amendment." We urge you to oppose this proposal, which would rewrite intolerance and discrimination into our Constitution.

Our Constitution has been amended a scant twenty-seven times to expand and preserve our right to free speech, to assemble, to vote, and to be free of discrimination. They ensure the integrity and continuity of our government in times of tragedy. In short, the Founding Fathers and our predecessors in this body amended our Constitution to eradicate discrimination and to unite the nation.

Never before has this nation amended the Constitution to deny rights to an entire group of Americans. We should not desecrate this great charter of freedom by amending it to discriminate and marginalize an entire group.

Whatever your views on the question of same-sex marriage, we urge you to oppose this Constitutional amendment. For additional information, please visit the Judiciary Democratic website at http://www.house.gov/judiciary_democrats/index.html or call x5-6906.

Sincerely,

John Conyers, Jr.
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary

Jerrold Nadler
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on the Constitution